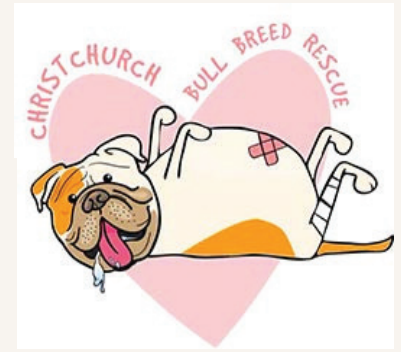


The Poop SCOOP



Free Newsletter No. 11, August 2018

THE SCOOP

You've heard us talk about desexing again and again. From a rescue point of view desexing is the number one way to lower the unwanted dog population. We show you photos of sad, sick puppies that have been carelessly tossed aside because they were never wanted in the first place.

A lot of people's response to this is "oh but I can be responsible and not breed my dog". For some people, (more often males for some reason) desexing a dog is seen as a personal hit to the ego.

While you may be able to prevent breeding by being especially careful, you are still putting your dog at risk of major unnecessary illness.

Pyometra is a serious and often life-threatening infection of the uterus that occurs in unspayed females. It is painful and can, at times, be difficult to distinguish from other problems. The best way to treat pyometra is through prevention, by spaying your pet BEFORE it occurs.

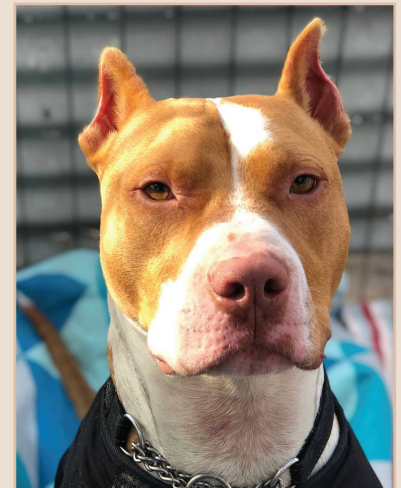
Testicular cancer is the most common cancer in unneutered male dogs. Once the cancer shows itself in the form of a visible lump or tumor, it is often too late.

Why put your dogs health at risk? Desex your pets and enjoy every minute of their time with you - right up to old age!

Abbey van der Plas



*Top: normal uterus and ovaries,
Bottom: uterus and ovaries of dog
suffering from pyometra
(Note: pictures taken during surgery,
both dogs lived.)*



DOG OF THE MONTH

HEATH FRANKLIN

Heath Franklin is a 1 year old ABPT X

He loves people company but will happily cuddle up in the sun when people are not around. He needs a home with good fencing & containment when he is left alone. He is not destructive in his run at all so would be fine being left inside when no one is home. Heath Franklin needs a home that has bull breed experience & can continue his training in a safe, loving environment. We are still testing him with dogs, but at this stage would be best suited to be a only pet.

Due to his breed Heath Franklin needs to be adopted by someone who is a homeowner. All our dogs are destined to be family dogs that sleep indoors with the rest of the family.

Heath Franklin is de-sexed, vaccinated, chipped & registered

ALL THE WAYS TO REACH US

1 Barton Street, Woolston, Christchurch

Email: admin@chchbullbreedrescue.org.nz www.chchbullbreedrescue.org.nz

Social media: www.facebook.com/ChristchurchBullBreedRescue/; www.instagram.com/chchbullbreedrescue/

WELCOME

It's already August, which means we put together another newsletter for you. First of all a huge thank you to our amazing foster parents who helped us cope with several litters of unexpected puppies! Thanks to them, they all grew up to be amazing dogs and will be great additions to their new families.

In this edition we have some ideas for you to keep your dog mentally stimulated to avoid exploding couches or similar dramas.

We also have a great selection of recent 'graduates', dogs that have found their furever families and have left CBRR.

In addition to all our routine work we also had the drama and worry about Jake, who took himself for a walk and couldn't find his way back home until he was found over 3 weeks later. Welcome back, buddy!



SPECIALS



Womens long sleeve t-shirts - \$20



Kids t-shirts - \$10



Kids sweatshirts - \$15



White unisex t-shirts - \$15

THE SCIENCE CORNER

CAN A SHELTER DOG BENEFIT FROM A SLEEPOVER WITH A FOSTER PARENT?

It might give dogs a break from the monotony of life at the rescue, and could provide information on the dog's behaviour outside the kennel situation.

On the other hand, it might cause more stress, being transported around town and even more so having to go back to the kennel the next day. This might be devastating and do more harm than good.

This was a question researchers in Arizona tried to answer.

As an indicator for stress, the researchers used cortisol levels, which can be determined from urine samples. They took samples at the shelter, the morning after the sleepover at the foster's home, and the morning after that when the dog was back at the shelter. In addition, they asked shelter staff and fosters a series of questions about the dogs' behaviour.

So what did they find?

First, they found that cortisol levels dropped after just one overnight stay in a foster home. This was in less than 24 hrs! Great news.

Second, they saw that cortisol levels the day after the return to the shelter were about the same as they were before the dogs left, but not higher. Again, that's good. Why?

Because it shows that there is a short term benefit for the dogs, but no lasting harm. It seems that a sleepover is the same as a weekend break for us humans: a nice break, it's fun while it lasts, but it doesn't make all the stress magically disappear forever.

Another unexpected advantage observed during the study was that foster parents often got very involved with their foster dog. They networked, took them to events, searched for adopters, and stayed involved in their welfare even after the trial was over. This increased the dog's chance to find their forever family.

So it seems that even short time-outs from the shelter life are advantageous for the dogs.

The study has not been published yet, but you can find an article by the funders here:

<http://chewonthis.maddiesfund.org/2017/09/study-do-shelter-dogs-benefit-from-short-term-foster-sleepovers/>



What's not to like about a sleepover?

DOGGIE TAILS

WHY DO DOGS NEED MENTAL STIMULATION?

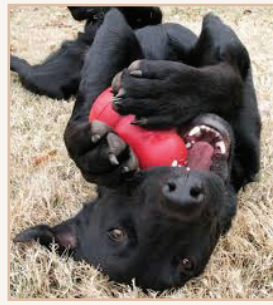
Why do dogs need mental stimulation? I think mental stimulation is something that a lot of dog owners do not really know a lot about, they do not clearly understand what it means or how to implement it for their dog. There is a lot more information out there now-a-days about the benefit of having your dog mentally stimulated, but some people just somehow seem to completely miss the mark and always to the dogs detriment.

A regular comment I hear is "I take my dog out for an hour in the morning & at night but it is still destroying everything". Most people meet their dog's physical needs but miss the active mental stimulate, as they believe getting out & about on a walk they get mentally stimulated. This is accurate if you are walking your dog in new environments, but not if you are doing the same walk every day.



A lot more working dog breed or mixes are now becoming family pets. They can make amazing family pets if we are able to meet their mental stimulation needs. If they do not have cattle to round up or sheep to put into pens they are missing the massive amount of mental work this takes when they are completing these tasks. The same can apply to puppies, as they are developing they can get bored quite quickly. When these dogs are left alone for long periods of time or being ignored by family members they will become bored or unhappy about the environment and they will always find something to do to release their frustration. This can be anything from barking, howling, chewing and various types of destructive behaviour.

There are so many options out there now to help with keeping dogs mentally stimulated. There are expensive toys right through to homemade toys. If dogs have toys around all the time they can get bored of them so it is good to mix it up with toys, put some away for a while and swap them



around. Have a special toy that is only brought out for play time, or as a special treat as it always creates extra interest in that specific toy.

Kongs are fantastic as they come in a variety of sizes to accommodate puppies all the way through to big dogs with very strong jaws. Filing them with treats, dog friendly peanut butter or cheese makes the dog work to get these goodies out.

Playing games with food, teaching the dog how to "find it" when treats have been placed around the yard or house is a great



way to mentally stimulate while having a bit of fun. Even doing some basic training, 5 minutes a few times a day, this makes a dog really think hard to understand what you want of them with treat rewards for getting things right.

When we take dogs out on a walk to a new environment they are taking in all the new smells, the scent of other dogs & people, this meets both their mental and physical stimulation needs at once.



Little Peanut modeling puppy jumper "bumblebee"

ARE YOU A KNITTER?

Puppy season is approaching, we are looking for knitted puppy jumpers. Like human babies, our little short haired bundles of joy don't have good temperature regulation yet. So they need some jumpers to keep them warm. But kids being kids, and playing rough sometimes, the jumpers usually don't last all that long.

If you don't know what to do with that stash of hideous acrylic yarn that lurks in the back of your cupboard (whatever made you buy that one in the first place??), how about getting the needles out and making something that will be worn and appreciated until it literally falls apart? We don't even mind if you use all those last meters of yarn you have left from other projects or if the colours don't match - every bit helps to keep the puppies warm.

There are plenty of patterns online, but the simplest one can be downloaded for free from www.knitworld.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Puppy-jumpers.pdf. If you can knit and purl, increase and decrease, you are good to go.

We need all sizes but prefer the 'boys version' because it helps keeping the jumpers dry if nature calls - and the girls don't mind a bit of fabric missing.

Any puppy jumpers (and other donations) can be dropped off during opening hours at 1 Barton Street, Woolston (MON-SAT, 10 am - 2 pm) or at Heavy Petting, 82 White Street, Rangiora.

WE FOUND OUR FOREVER HOMES



WEIRD DOG FACT

The most dogs ever owned by one person were 5,000 Mastiffs owned by Kublai Khan.

(We think that he clearly had good taste when it came to dogs)

UPCOMING EVENTS

You can find us at the **Christchurch Fitness Expo 2018**. October 6th, 10am-5 pm, Horncastle Arena

We often run sausage sizzles on short notice. Follow us on Facebook to see where we'll be next.

www.facebook.com/ChristchurchBullBreedRescue

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION, THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO DO SO:

Directly into our Trust account - Christchurch Bull Breed Rescue Trust 38-9016-0659994-00

Directly into our vet account - Avonside Wainoni Vet Clinic - Ref - 11751 - 06 0829 0207978 00

Give A Little - <https://givealittle.co.nz/org/bullbreedrescue>

Fill in the form below & send in a payment to us at 1 Barton Street, Woolston, Christchurch

As we are a registered charity, we are able to offer receipts for tax purposes, so please let us know if you require a receipt for payments made in any of the above ways

Name: _____ Address: _____ Email: _____

Payment made into an account: _____

Payment attached: Y/ N Receipt Required Y/N Receipt: Emailed / Posted